

moment will suffice to repay me for all my worries. My friends and I will have done a good deed for which every good heart in France will remember us gratefully. And what more could one Desire? a family that will love us, a wife and children who will bless us, a man who will owe it to us that in him has become embodied the triumph of equity and human solidarity/

Afterwards, referring to "J'Accuse/" he said:

" Do people remember the abominable clamour which greeted my Letter to the President of the Eepublic ? I was the insultor of the Army, a man who had sold himself, a man without fatherland ! Literary friends, in their consternation and fright, drew away from me, abandoned me to the horror of my crime. Articles \vero indeed written which will weigh heavily on the consciences of those who signed them. Itfever, it was urged, had the most brutal of writers, a madman full of sickly pride, dared to address a more Insulting and more mendacious letter to the Chief of tho State 1 And now just reperuse my poor letter. I have become a trifle ashamed of it — ashamed of its discretion, its opportunism, I will almost say its cowardice. ... I had greatly softened thingB in it; I had even passed some by in silence, —some which arc manifest to-day and acknowledged, but of which I then Bill I wished to doubt. To tell the truth, yes, I already suspected Henry, but I had no proofs. So I thought it best to leave Imu out of the case. And I divined other matters, for confidential in-formation had come to me unsolicited, —• information BO tomblo that, fearing its frightful consequences, I did not think thai I ought to make it public. Yet now those *confidences* have been

revealed, have become commonplace
truisms. And my poor latter
is no longer up to date* it seems quite
childish, a more skit, tliw
paltry invention of some timid novelist, by
the side of tho truth,
so superb and fierce. . . There was not an
unnecessary word In it,
there was nothing but the grief of a citizen
respectfully soliciting jtm-
. tice of the Chief of his country. But such has
been tho overlunting
history of my writings — I have never been
able to pen a book, a